

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 18340 230804Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DPW-01 DRC-01 SAJ-01 /153 W

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R 230705Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8295

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 18340

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: SENATE PRESIDENT SAYS PEACE AGREEMENT WILL REQUIRE NATIONAL  
ASSEMBLY ROLE

REF: (A) FBIS SAIGON S230217; (B) SAIGON 7195

1. ADDRESSEES' ATTENTION IS CALLED TO REFERENCED FBIS ITEM  
WHICH REPORTS STATEMENTS MADE TO PRESS BY SENATE PRESIDENT  
TRAN VAN LAM ON OCT 22 FOTTOWING INAUGURAL SESSION FOR NEW  
SENATE OFFICERS. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL VIETNAM PRESS, LAM SAID  
INTER ALIA THAT ANY PEACE AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN THE TWO  
SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTIES WOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF  
CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE AND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
IN ITS ROLE AS "REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE", AND  
THAT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WOULD HAVE CHOICE OF "APPROVING  
AND RATIFYING " THE AGREEMENT OR OF PRESENTING A NEW PROPOSAL  
TO BE NEGOTIATED BY EXECUTIVE WITH OTHER SIDE. IN ANY CASE,  
LAM COMMENTED, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE  
LEGISLATURE WOULD BE VERY HEAVY CONCERNING THIS CHOICE  
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BETWEEN WAR AND PEACE FOR THE PEOPLE OF VIET-NAM.

2. COMMENT: MORE THAN ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT MADE SO FAR, THIS STATEMENT BY LAM COMES CLOSER TO ACCORDING TO OR CLAIMING FOR LEGISLATURE A DEFINITE ROLE IN APPROVING OR PARTICIPATING IN A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. HOWEVER, LAM DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY SAY THAT THE CONSTITUTION'S FORMAL RATIFICATION PROCEDURE WOULD HAVE TO BE FOLLOWED, AND HIS HEDGING AND ATTRIBUTION OF HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY TO ASSEMBLY ARE REMINISCENT OF HIS WORDS LAST APRIL WHEN SPEAKING ABOUT THE ELECTION LAW ELEMENT IN THE GVN'S APRIL 25 PROPOSAL MADE AT LACELLE-ST. CLOUD (REF B). IN BOTH CASES HIS WORDS ALLOW FOR AN ASSEMBLY ROLE, BUT LEAVE ROOM FOR MANEUVER IN EXACTLY HOW THE EXECUTIVE WOULD GO ABOUT CONSULTING THE ASSEMBLY OR OBTAINING ITS APPROVAL.

MARTIN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PEACE TALKS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SAIGON18340  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS MARTIN  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** SENATE PRESIDENT SAYS PEACE AGREEMENT WILL REQUIRE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ROLE  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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